

SPECIAL TERM OF COURT PROBABLE

W. Foster Parsons Confesses to Slaying of Joe Wilson. Special Term of Court Asked For to be Held Not Later Than First Monday in October. Is Parsons of Sound Mind?

Solicitor Brock sent a request to the Governor's office Wednesday, asking that a special term of court be called for Richmond county not later than the first Monday in October for the purpose of trying W. Foster Parsons, charged with the death of Duck Phillips and Joe Wilson.

The POST-DISPATCH called the Governor's office by long distance this (Thursday) afternoon at 4:30 o'clock to learn whether the request had been acted upon. The Governor is out West, but his Private Secretary, Mr. Sandford Martin, informed the editor that the letter containing the request had not at that hour been received, but that when it does reach his office, he will act upon it immediately. He stated that a special term will be called, provided a judge can be found who is not engaged.

As the POST-DISPATCH went to press on Thursday afternoon of last week, the identification of the dead bones found near Keyser earlier in the day as being those of Joe Wilson, colored jitney driver of Hamlet, was made complete. It was intimated in the paper that W. Foster Parsons, a white man aged 23, might be connected with the disappearance and death of Wilson. Since last Thursday developments followed rapidly, culminating with the confession by Parsons on Friday.

Parsons had been placed in jail in Rockingham Monday, Aug. 25th, having been bound over to court by the Hamlet Recorder under \$750 bond charged with larceny and receiving, at that time he being accused only of the theft of a car driven by Joe Wilson. Investigation during the next day or so tended to connect him with the theft of the Duck Phillips car on Aug. 1st (when Phillips was killed) and then after the Joe Wilson bones were found on Thursday, the circumstantial evidence was made very strong. Confronted with the evidence in jail on last Friday morning, Parsons confessed, the substance of his confession as made to Sheriff McDonald and Jailor Bean being as follows:

He admitted killing Joe Wilson, but denied killing Duck Phillips. He said that on the night of July 31st, he and a white man named James Hammock came from Durham to Hamlet. That they hired a jitney driver, Duck Phillips, to drive them up the road; that when they got near Hoffman, Hammock, who was sitting on the front seat, suddenly reached over, pulled the driver to him and shot him through the back of the head; that Hammock then dragged the body to the woods, and shot him again, as he still showed signs of life. That Hammock then returned to the car, and the two proceeded on to Durham. That next morning he (Parsons) sold the car for \$250 and later in the day met Hammock at the depot and gave him half, \$125. That he has not seen Hammock since.

He (Parsons) says he later came to Hamlet, Aug. 20th, next morning hired Joe Wilson and that when near Keyser he shot Wilson through the back of the head from the rear seat. He then dragged the body from the car, and driving on towards Aberdeen, stopped, before reaching that town, beside the road and went to sleep. That some one passed in the afternoon and woke him and that he then drove on to Durham.

He appears to remember only disconnectedly, and he says he was drink-

ing on both occasions. When asked why he did it, he simply replied, "I don't know."

The foregoing in brief covers his confession.

It is thought by many people that his mind must be impaired, for, reason many, surely no person in his right mind could perpetrate such crimes.

Parsons is a white man, the son of the late Allen Parsons, of Black Jack township, Richmond county. He was married to a Miss Thomas last Spring. More recently he has been working in Durham county, about 8 miles from Durham.

A detailed story of the two crimes, each interwoven with the other, makes intensely interesting reading. The POST-DISPATCH in its constant endeavor to be "on the job," is giving this big story to the public in the form of an EXTRA, the special issue appearing this (Friday) afternoon on the streets at four o'clock—only a few hours after the confession.

Joe Wilson Killed.

Boiled down, a history of the killing of Joe Wilson, colored, is as follows, as pieced together by Chief Braswell:

On Wednesday night a week ago, Aug. 20th, Mr. Parsons came to Hamlet from Durham and registered at the Terminal hotel. Thursday morning it is said he hired Joe Wilson, a colored boy about 16 years old, to drive him to Childress store near Hannah Pickett. They returned to Hamlet about 10 o'clock, and then Parsons hired the boy to carry him to Cognac. At this juncture, a boy named George Ross asked the boy to let him ride as far as Pine street, so he could deliver some clothes. This Wilson agreed to do; when Ross got out at Pine street, he remarked to Wilson that if he would wait till he delivered the clothes he would go with him to Cognac. So the boy delivered the clothes, but when he returned to the car, the driver told him that he couldn't go as he would have a load coming back. Evidently, Parsons had spoken to him in the meantime. A citizen of Hoffman saw the car with Wilson and Parsons in it pass that town about 11 or thereabouts. He identified Parsons by a fancy shirt he wore. That is the last seen of the two together.

On Thursday morning, Aug. 28th, a young white man carrying a load of tobacco to Aberdeen, saw a big flock of buzzards hovering to the left of a

short-cut road about a mile and a half from Keyser, and upon investigating they found the bones of a human being. They gave the alarm and officers from Hamlet and the Sheriff from Rockingham went there, as did also the officers of Moore county, the spot being about two miles within the Moore county line. All the flesh was eaten from the body, the bones picked clean and only a bit of flesh remained in the shoes, the buzzards making strenuous efforts to get even that bit. The clothes were scattered about, blackened. Sheriff McDonald after viewing the bones, brought the clothes to Hamlet, and interviewed the mother of Joe Wilson with the view of connecting Joe with the dead body. The mother said he had a yellowish shirt, black pointed shoes, which corresponded with the clothes found.

So much for the dead body.

On Friday morning of last week, Mr. Vernon Allen, manager for Hinson Bros., garage at Hamlet, informed Chief Braswell that the car driven by Joe Wilson had disappeared. Chief thereupon went to Aberdeen Friday morning he got Mr. Allen and they decided to drive towards Raleigh in search of it. And just here is how remarkably events happened. They reached Sanford Saturday afternoon, and finding no trace, started on towards Moncure. When about a mile from Sanford, and traveling about 20 miles an hour, they met and

Continued on Page 6.

Marriage Licenses.

Aug. 30—Sydney Prevard and Josephine Grady, colored.
 Aug. 30—David Ellerbe and Ella May Robinson, colored.
 Sept. 1—Lewis Brown and Nellie Ormsby, white.
 Sept. 1—Joseph McKay and Charlotte D. Leak, colored.
 Sept. 2—Wilson Little and Judy Terry, colored.
 Sept. 2—William Little Covington and Effie Lee Baldwin, white

Carter and the Boll Weevil.

J. W. Carter, a Richmond county man living in Beaufort county, South Carolina, for the past two years, spent the first of the week here. He came to sell his house and lot in West Rockingham to J. C. Dockery.

Mr. Carter's postoffice is Gray's Hill, which is 60 miles from Savannah and 250 miles from Rockingham. He brought the Post-Dispatch a number of dead boll weevils in a bottle, and stated that the terrible pest has this year damaged the cotton crop of his county fully 75 per cent. Two years ago there was no sign of the weevil in Beaufort county. Last year the insect appeared and did much damage, and this year it ravaged the crop fearfully. He gives the doleful prediction that it will reach Richmond county within the next two years, in its steady march through the belt.

Charlotte Strike Nearing a Settlement.

The strike of the street car men at Charlotte seems very near a settlement now.

In order to give its readers the very latest in regard to the strike situation there, the POST-DISPATCH this (Thursday) afternoon at 5 o'clock phoned Charlotte.

The only news available is that a committee of car men are this afternoon conferring with President Taylor, of the street car company, and all differences have about been smoothed over with the exception of whether ALL the men who went on strike will be taken back. The company objects to a certain few. It is very likely that this will be smoothed out, and the strike may be declared off possibly Friday or Saturday.

Cotton Headed Down.

New York cotton futures have declined 255 points (2 1-2 cents) in the past week. On Thursday of last week Oct. futures were 31.63. Today Oct. closed at 29.06. Spots last Thursday were 32.10, today 29.55. December closed today 29.35.

The market declined 70 points Wednesday and 118 today.

Thirty cents was the price paid at Rockingham Monday and Tuesday, and early Wednesday morning. 29 1-2c was paid early today, but as the New York futures eased off, the local price followed suit, until after the decline of 118 points, the local price this afternoon was only 28 1-2 cents.

Marks Creek Tax Assessment

Questionnaires for listing taxables in Hamlet and in Marks Creek township were sent out by Supervisor E. D. Whitlock, yesterday and today. The Supervisor will go to Hamlet, next Monday, and can be found from then until the 20th at the Town Hall, where he will receive the questionnaires.

Methodist Revival.

A revival will begin in the Methodist church the third Sunday, the pastor to be assisted by Rev. H. H. Jordan, of Monroe. It will continue two weeks.

COURT CLOSES

Two Day Session of Court for Trial of Civil Cases Comes to Close This Afternoon. Next Civil Term Begins Sept. 22nd.

The first September term of civil court was to have convened last Monday, but owing to the fact that Monday was a holiday, court was postponed. Judge Henry P. Lane, of Reidsville, arrived Wednesday and opened court at 9:30.

The following divorce actions were granted: Riley Jones vs Belle Jones. A. G. Jones vs Ella Jones. William Guy vs Maggie Guy.

Suit of Bennett-Broadway Co. et al vs Mrs. J. P. Jenkins was tried Wednesday afternoon, the jury deciding that defendant is indebted to the plaintiff in the sum of \$90.

Case of Noah LeGrand vs J. W. Lide, over ownership of five pigs that Mr. Lide killed, was tried this morning, the jury deciding in favor of the colored plaintiff in sum of \$108.

Next case was R. & H. Levine vs American Express Company; jury awards the sum of \$37.50 asked for.

Compromise judgment signed of John Fincher vs S. A. L. Ry for \$300. Compromise of S. Shapi vs J. S. Dleykan et al, signed, suing over note.

At 3:15 the suit of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Huggins vs Sebert Howell for damages in auto wreck at Hamlet, was begun. Mr. Huggins suing for \$75 and Mrs. Huggins for \$500. Jones represents the Huggins; Bynum represents Howell, who, however, was not in court. This will be the last case, and court will adjourn for the term at its conclusion this afternoon. — LATER: Jury came out at 5 o'clock and awarded Mr. Huggins \$75, and Mrs. Huggins \$311.60.

The next term will begin Sept. 22nd, and is for civil cases. The next criminal term is in early November.

The Columbia team of the "Sally" league won the championship by Monday morning defeating Charlotte for first place by score of 6-0.

Laundry Agent Wanted.

Wanted, by the Sanitary Steam Laundry, of Hamlet, an agent for Rockingham. A good proposition. Phone or go to see them.

Speeding by School.

The city last week placed large display signs at each corner of the graded school block, warning autoists not to go faster than ten miles per hour on that block. This is done simply as an extra precaution for the school children. The speed law of 10 miles by the school is to be strictly enforced, and the offenders will have no one but themselves to blame when they are jacked up before the Mayor. Don't swell up and growl when the police pull you, and don't get childishly peevish with the Post-Dispatch for publishing your name in the Mayor's docket.

Community Fairs.

There will be four Community Fairs held in Richmond county in October, as follows:

Oct. 11th—Saturday, Roberdel.
 Oct. 16th—Thursday, Spring Hill, in Marks Creek township.
 Oct. 17th—Friday, Hoffman.
 Oct. 18th—Saturday, Hines school, Ellerbe, Route 2.

Roberdel School Monday.

The Roberdel High School will open next Monday, 8th, at 8:40 o'clock. All children between the ages of 8 and 14 in the school district must enroll the first day of school and continue in school for eight months, unless some legal excuse can be rendered.

Miss Bessie Terry,
Principal.

Help Wanted.

Wanted, several girls to clerk in dry good store. Apply at once to "A. B. C." care of Post-Dispatch, Rockingham.

Business Location for Rent.

For rent, the location at present occupied by the Post-Dispatch. Apply to W. B. Cole. Possession can be given about the middle of September, or possibly a little earlier.

MARGUERITE CLARK

in

"BAB'S BURGLAR"

at STAR THEATRE

FRIDAY, SEPT. 5TH.

Also a Pathe News. Adm 15 and 25c. Matinee 3:30, night 7:30.

Your Favorite Pictures Here.

The good old times? There were none. They're here now!

"You are getting more and paying less for it in effort and hours—your welfare is guarded with more privileges—your independence is more thorough—your rights are more absolute than those of any generation since Ancestor Adam developed a fondness for apples." —Herbert Kaufman.

There are more opportunities for men with ready money today than ever before. Ready money comes only with steady, persistent saving. Start your ready money Account in our Bank today, if only with a dollar.

The Richmond County Savings Bank
 ONLY SAVINGS BANK in the county

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